

## **Specification for Alfalfa Hay and Timothy/Grass Hay**

### **Objective Requirements:**

1. Hay shall be provided in small bales (30-90 lbs) and binding shall be of poly twine. No preservatives shall be used in the production of hay. After harvest, the hay shall be stored under roof until delivery to the Milwaukee County Zoo.
2. Hay shall be free of foreign materials (poisonous plants, wire, nails, sticks, rocks, etc.), must, mold, excess dust and insect damage.
3. Guidelines for desired nutritional content:

#### **Alfalfa Hay**

Relative feed value, minimum:	130
Crude protein, minimum:	18% (dry matter basis)
Stage of maturity at cutting:	no later than early bloom
Dry matter, minimum:	85%
Dry matter, maximum:	92%

#### **Timothy/Grass Hay**

Neutral detergent fiber, maximum:	57% (as feed basis)
Crude protein, minimum:	10%
Dry matter, minimum:	85%
Dry matter, maximum:	92%
% Alfalfa in grass hay mix:	15% maximum

### **Subjective Requirements:**

1. **Color:** The hay shall have a green or light golden-yellow color and shall not have a brown or black appearance or excessive yellowing.
2. **Odor:** The smell of the hay shall not have an odor from must or mildew.

### **Analysis:**

Bidders shall provide results on dry matter, crude protein, relative feed value, neutral detergent fiber and acid detergent fiber. Samples must be tested at a lab certified by the National Forage Testing Association. At least (12) samples should be taken for each "lot" of hay. A "lot" of hay is defined as hay taken from the same harvest, same field, same species (pure or mixed) and variety, same type of harvest conditions, same method of baling, same method of storage, and same weather conditions during harvest. An individual lot should not exceed (200) tons. Samples must be obtained using a hay probe. All samples shall be combined into one labeled bag, sealed and sent for analysis.

### **Delivery:**

Vendor shall deliver hay to the Milwaukee County zoo during regular commissary hours (Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.). Vendor unloads hay into our barn. Deliveries and unloading shall be coordinated with the Commissary Supervisor.